

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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Proudly Serving Carney, Kingsville, Loch Raven, Parkville, Perry Hall, and Towson

MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS:

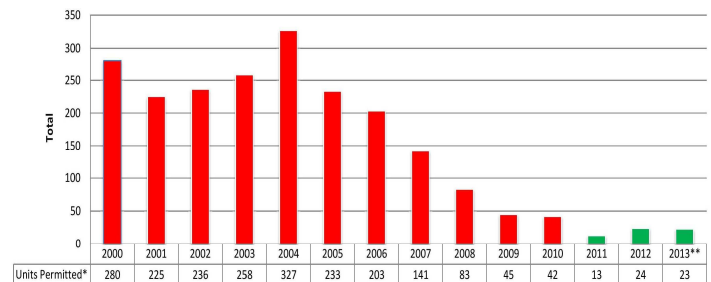
SHARP DECLINE IN PERRY HALL BUILDING PERMITS AFTER 2010

A report prepared by the Baltimore County Auditor's office shows a steep decline in residential building permits that would impact schools in the Perry Hall area.

The study notes that between 2000 and 2010, Baltimore County approved 2,073 residential building permits that would yield homes likely to produce school age children. Between 2011 and 2013, the county only approved 60 building permits. Put another way, there was a yearly average of 163 building permits approved between 2000 and 2010, versus only 20 over the past three years. The report does not include the units approved at Perry Hall's new senior housing project which will have no impact on schools.

Most of the homes now under construction in Perry Hall were approved prior to my election. Since that time, we have downzoned more than 260 acres of land in Perry Hall to lighten future growth and relieve school overcrowding.

New Residential Units Permitted in the Perry Hall Growth Area, 2000-2013



*excludes senior housing
**as of September 11, 2013

Throughout the Fifth District, we supported a downzoning of more than 400 acres of land, including the most land ever downzoned in Towson, Carney, and the Cromwell Valley. The Fifth District now has more land zoned for open space than any other County Council district.

COUNTY TO REPLACE OUTDATED ANIMAL SHELTER

The Kamenetz administration has announced plans to build a \$5 million Animal Services facility at the 14-acre campus that currently includes the Baltimore County animal shelter. The new facility will include increased kennel space, an adoption meet and greet room, a spay and neuter surgical suite, an outside dog exercise area, a dog park for use by the public, a cat observation and socialization room, additional parking, and office space for staff and volunteers.

Additionally, the county will provide spay and neuter services onsite. Adoptable pets will be spayed or neutered prior to going to their new homes. This new service will be covered by the existing \$65 adoption fee, which also includes a microchip with lifetime registry, a license, the first series of vaccinations, a rabies shot and a welcome home packet. Previously, Animal Services was unable to provide spay and neuter service because there was no operating room or space in its current building; however, the County has supplied a temporary structure, outfitted it with an operating room and obtained the necessary license to provide this service until the new facility is ready.

Anyone who has adopted a pet recently and has not yet had it spayed or neutered will be notified by letter of this new service and encouraged to make an appointment with Animal Services to have the procedure done at no additional cost.

NEWS IN CARNEY

Renovations to Carney Village Shopping Center

Renovations are nearly complete at the Carney Village Shopping Center, one of the oldest in northeastern Baltimore County. The shopping center is located at the intersection of Joppa and Harford Roads. Continental Realty Corporation invested about \$2 million to improve the look of the shopping center, one of the oldest in northeastern Baltimore County.

Water Project to Improve Reliability

Next spring, the Baltimore County Department of Public Works will replace a 12-inch Depression Era water main that has broken frequently over recent years. The main will be replaced that stretches from about 250 feet north of Joppa Road all the way to Cub Hill Road, a distance of 7,000 feet. Construction of the pipeline will take about nine months, and restoration and repaving will require about three months.

Councilman Marks has arranged for the Department of Public Works to brief the community at the Carney Improvement Association meeting on Wednesday, November 20 at 7 p.m. at Carney Elementary School.

On October 22, an incident with a water main in Parkville and Perry Hall created widespread disruptions. The Carney water project will upgrade an aging pipeline to improve reliability for residents throughout this part of Baltimore County.

NEWS IN PERRY HALL

Repairs Underway at Seven Oaks Senior Center

Repairs started in late October at the Seven Oaks Senior Center, where a driver crashed into the wall near the fitness center. The repairs should be done by Thanksgiving.

Perry Hall High School Upper Athletic Field Dedication

Perry Hall High School has recommended to the Board of Education that the upper athletic field be dedicated to longtime teacher and football coach Albert D. Miller, Jr. In the event the request is approved, the dedication ceremony will occur at the halftime for the football game on Friday, November 8, which starts at 7:30 p.m. Miller coached for forty years, from 1958 to 1998 at Dundalk and then Perry Hall High Schools. Upon transferring to Perry Hall High in 1966, he subsequently served as football coach, wrestling coach, and athletic director until his retirement in 1998.

NEWS IN TOWSON

Procurement Panel Recommends Plan for Fire Station

A procurement panel has selected a specific proposal for the sale of the Towson fire station. Councilman Marks has been meeting with community leaders over the past several months, and he will continue to do so now that a proposal has been made. For more information, visit this page: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/releases/1024properties.html>.

Fourth of July Parade Fundraiser Set for November 7

The Towson Fourth of July Parade Committee will hold its annual Longaberger/Vera Bradley bingo on Thursday, November 7 at the Towson American Legion Hall, 125 York Road, starting at 6 p.m. For tickets, contact (410) 931- 1749 or (410) 256-4662.

School System Recommends Addition at Cromwell Valley Elementary, Reactivation of Loch Raven Elementary

At a community meeting on October 29th, the school system recommended a plan to address overcrowding not only in the Towson area, but anticipated enrollment growth in the Loch Raven Boulevard corridor. From the BCPS press release: "In the central area, the school system proposes to reopen a 500-seat Loch Raven Elementary School and relocate the students and staff of Halstead Academy there; build an addition to Cromwell Valley Elementary School to add 289 seats; and renovate the current Halstead Academy building to accommodate a new countywide school."

Councilman Marks will continue to meet with parents and community leaders as this plan is discussed.

CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Baltimore County Police Department is now accepting applications for its Community Crime Prevention and Youth Activity Grants Program for fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015).

Details are available online at the following Web Site:

<http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/police/releases/policies/1028communitygrants.html>